CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A folding device for producing a second longitudinal fold in products of a rotary press, comprising:

a folding drum;

a folding-blade shaft having two ends, said folding-blade shaft being rotatably mounted at each of said two ends in said folding drum, said folding-blade shaft having at least two folding-blade carriers for holding folding blades;

a pair of bearings arranged in said folding drum, said ends of said folding-blade shaft being mounted respectively in said folding drum by said pair of bearings; and

at least one further bearing arranged in said folding drum between said pair of bearings, wherein said folding-blade shaft is further rotatably supported in said folding drum by said at least one further bearing between said ends of said folding-blade shaft.

2. The folding device of claim 1, wherein said at least one further bearing is arranged between adjacent ones of said at least two folding-blade carriers.

3. The folding device of claim 1, wherein said pair of bearings and said at least one further bearing comprise self-aligning roller bearings.

4. The folding device of claim 3, wherein said pair of bearings and said at least one further bearing are operatively arranged for receiving lubricating medium from a central lubricating-medium supply.

5. The folding device of claim 1, wherein said pair of bearings and said at least one further bearing are operatively arranged for receiving lubricating medium from a central lubricating-medium supply.

6. The folding device of claim 1, further comprising a drive pinion arranged on said folding-blade shaft, said drive pinion being connected to said folding-blade shaft with a form-fitting connection by serrated toothing.

7. The folding device of claim 1, further comprising a carrier arranged in said folding drum, said at least one further bearing being supported on said carrier, wherein said carrier has a small material thickness in a longitudinal direction of said folding device and a large area extending approximately over the entire cross section of an interior of said folding drum in a transverse direction of said folding device.

8. The folding device of claim 7, wherein said carrier is connected to said folding drum by threaded connectors.

9. The folding device of claim 1, wherein said folding blades are spaced apart from one another in a region proximate said carrier by a distance smaller than 10 millimeters.